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The Caledonian Mercury.

Edinburgh, Monday, November 23, 1730.

From the Universal Spectator, Nov. 14.

IT may justly be said, that with regard to the many Disputes that arise in Human Life, as well as to the numerous Controversies carried on (with Bitterness too) among the Learn'd; the Original has rather been owing to a Mistake about *Words*, than to any real Difference about *Things*: The Reason is apparent, when we consider the Nature of *Language* in general. *Words* are the Marks, whereby we express the *Ideas* of our Mind; and *Speech* is that Method, wherein, by the Help of *Words*, we communicate those *Ideas* to others. If then he who speaks, and those to whom he speaks, use the same *Marks* to delineate the same *Ideas*, all he says will be plain, and easily apprehended; but if to the same Word he annexes one *Idea*, and another have another, the greatest Confusion will ensue, and 'twill be next to impossible to be understood.

Inaccuracy of *Speech* is an Error so frequent, that (to understand a Person) it is not only requisite to have his *Words*, but also to be acquainted with the *Man*, to be able to come at his Meaning. 'Tis commonly said, *Such a One is very happy*; yet I aver, tho' I know not the Character of the Speaker, 'tis simply impossible for us to conceive what is meant by it. *Varro* sums up Numbers of Opinions among the Ancients concerning the true Sense of *Happiness*: tho' they all agreed, in the main, in that antiquated Whim, that *Piety* and *Virtue* were absolutely necessary to compose it. The Moderns, tho' they have fully ridded themselves of such *unpolite Notions*, are for all that, not a Whit better agreed in their Sentiments as to this Point: The *Beau* places it in Dress; the *Ladies* in Trifles; *Fools* expect it every where, and *Wisemen* no where here. Happiness among People of Rank, signifies Power, Title, Place; 'mong the Covetous, 'tis the same thing with a *good Estate*; and the *modern* Philosophers, distinguished by the Name of *Rakes*, descend so low as to mean no more by it than *a Wench and a Bottle*.

This Fault of misapplying *Words* is now so common, that we can never guard against it too much; being apt to lead us into many other Mistakes, and that to in Matters of the utmost Consequence. I could illustrate this like a Country Schoolmaster, by numberless Examples; but shall confine myself to One, which I choose for the Rest of this Paper.

The Expression I intend to examine, is *the Necessaries of Life*: To which, I believe there are scarce two Persons in the World who annex precisely the same *Idea*. The *Greek* Philosophers restrained this within a very narrow Compass, being content with the coarsest Victuals and plainest Habit. *Diogenes* compriz'd all his Utensils in a *Scrip* to hold his Eatables, and a *Bowl* to drink out of; few enough in all Conscience, one would think! Yet one Day seeing a Boy suck up Water out of the Hollow of his Hand, he with Indignation threw away his *Bowl*, wondering how he had incumbred himself so long with so unnecessary a Burden.

In *Rome*'s early Ages, all its Heroes and Consuls were of this Opinion; they spent their Days in manuring their Lands, and when the Publick requir'd their Service, they quitted their Tillage, to take the Command of Armies; and having finished the War, laid aside the Purple, and took up the Plow again. A modern General must at least have Coach and Six: But in those Days, fine Horses, rich Furniture, *&c.* were so far from being reckon'd among *Conveniencies*, that they were utterly *unknown*: But as the *Romans* became more *polite*, the *Necessary* became more extensive, and by degrees they extended their Sentiments that Way.

In this Nation, great Alterations have happen'd that way; what would in the Days of *Harry* VIII. nay, in those of good King *Jemmy*, have seem'd *Superfluities*, come now within the List of *Necessaries*.

This was the Subject t'other Day at a Lady's Tea Table where I was: Capt. *Storm* swore, that *Punch* was the first Liquor, and that there was no good Living without it. Fie! Fie! replied *Mirabel*, (a spruce City Beau) *Punch*, Captain, no, no; *Champaign* must have the first Place, since it is a Liquor no Man can support the Want of. *Bellinda*, who is both a Wit and a Beauty, declared herself with Vehemency in favour of *Snuff*; and *Hecatissa*, a Widow Lady upwards of 70, said with a Sigh, she hoped *Coniac* would never be omitted. I recovered nevertheless my usual Gravity, but could not help smi-

ſmiling at ſo whimſical a liſt of *redundant Neceſſaries.*

I ſaid before, that annexing wrong *Ideas* to *Words*, is of dangerous Conſequence. I muſt now add, that it can never be more ſo than in the Caſe in Hand. Children now ſtep into the World taught by Example, to regard not only the *Conveniencies*, but even the *Superfluities* of Life, as Things they cannot want. Hence flows ſuch a Torrent of Evils, as I want Words, and even Inclination to expreſs. I would not be underſtood to mean, that we are to reſtrain ourſelves to a *Stoical* Contempt of Things, People give into to ſoothe the Cares of Life. Far from it: A Wiſeman may enjoy all its Elegancies, while they border not upon *Luxury*. It is not the Wine that's to blame, but the Man who gets drunk with it: Nor is it the moderate Uſe of Superfluities but the being a Slave to them, that makes 'em criminal. *Ariſtippus* the Philoſopher ſcrupled not to enjoy the Pleaſures of a Court, when they retrench'd not on his *Virtue*: He wore Purple and Gold, not for their Luſtre, but for Raiment: He ate the Delicacies of the Royal Table, not out of Nicety, but becauſe they were there: As he had them it was well, and when he wanted them, it was as well.

Having ſaid ſo much on the Miſtakes Men fall into on this Head; it will neceſſary to ſay ſomething of the moſt reaſonable Conſtruction the *Neceſſaries of Life* will bear.

Nature certainly requires but few things; ſo we ought not to ſtudy how to increaſe her Wants. If we conſider the Vices and Follies into which they daily run, who poſſeſs an Affluence of Fortune, it would moderate the Senſe we have of our own Difficulties; ſince at the ſame time that we are unable to ſupply certain little Wants, we are alſo out of the Road of committing thoſe Evils, which may one Day bring us into grater Inconveniencies and Diſquiet, than the Narrowneſs of our preſent Circumſtances. In fine, the readieſt Path to *Happineſs* is to moderate our Deſires: For, as the *Roman* Satyriſt juſtly obſerves, *He may with greater Propriety be ſtiled rich, whoſe Riches are bounded by his Fortune, than he who, poſſeſſing the World, ſtill covets more.*

I ſhall end this Eſſay with a Poem of Sir *H. Wotton's* (never before printed) *On* CONTENTMENT.

How happy is he, born or taught,
Who ſerveth not another's Will,
Whoſe Armour is, his honeſt Thought,
And ſimple Truth, his higheſt Skill;
Whoſe Paſſions, not his Maſters are;
Whoſe Soul is ſtill prepar'd for Death:
Unty'd to the World with Care
Of Prince's Love, or Vulgar Breath:
Who hath his Life from Humour freed,
Whoſe Conſcience is his ſtrong Retreat;
Whoſe State can neither Flatterers feed,
Nor Ruin make Accuſers great:
Who env'eth none whom Chance doth raiſe
Or Vice; who never underſtood,
How deepeſt Wounds are given with Praiſe;
Nor Rules of State, but Rules of Good:
Who GOD doth late and early pray,
More of his *Grace* than *Gifts* to ſend,
And entertains his harmleſs Days
With a well choſen Book or Friend.
This Man is free from ſervile Bonds
Of Hope to riſe, or Fear to fall;
Free of himſelf, tho' not of Lands;
And having nothing, yet hath All.

Wye's Letter Verbatim, London, Nov. 17.

Since our laſt arriv'd the Mails from France and Holland.

THE South Sea Company's annual Ship *Prince William* continues Wind bound at Spithead, as alſo near 60 Merchant Ships in the Downs, bound for the Streights and the Weſt Indies. The Daniſh Eaſt India Ship mentioned in our laſt to have been forced on Shore on the Coaſt of Ireland, is the *Golden Lyon*, bound from Copenhagen to Tranquebar, but her Treaſure and Goods were all ſaved.

According to ſome Letters from Virginia of the 21ſt paſt, it was reported there, That Orders were ſent to the Imperial Miniſter at the Hague, to complain to their High Mightineſſes, and demand Satisfaction of them for the 2 Oſtend Ships that were taken by thoſe of the Republick, in Conjunction with the Engliſh; and that in caſe of Refuſal, he is to declare, That the Emperor will take a proper Opportunity to reſent this Inſult. 'Tis added, that his Imperial Majeſty perſiſts in his Reſolution, not to depart from the Treaty of the Quadruple Alliance; but he may ſoon be brought to another Temper, if it be true, as is related, that the Turks ſeem inclined to make Peace with the Perſians, in order to break with the Germans or Moſcovites.

The Right Honourable Sir Robert Walpole arrived in Town laſt Sunday from his Seat in Norfolk, and Yeſterday a Board of Treaſury was held on ſome Affairs of Importance.

They write from Briſtol, That on Thurſday Morning laſt, Sir Haſſwell Tynte, Member of Parliament for Bridgewater, died ſuddenly of an Apoplexy; and that on Wedneſday laſt Mr. Clemens received another Letter from the vile Incendiaries, full

full of horrid Threatnings: and ſeveral Merchants have had Letters from them, wherein they threaten to burn the Ships in the Sea Mill Dock, if certain Sums of Money were not put in Places ſpecified therein. From Exeter of the 11th Inſtant we are informed, That the horrid Incendires have not yet left that City; for on Sunday laſt in the Evening, the Office of Mr. Nicholas Webber, belonging to the Biſhop's Court, near the Cathedral, was broke open by ſome of them, and robbed of 17 l. and afterwards left a Letter, threatning to burn his Houſe and deſtroy him and his whole Family, if he did not leave 25 l. in a dark Entry adjoining thereto: Great Search has been made for them, but as yet in vain And from Bridgwater we learn, That Dr. Allen, a Phyſician of that Place, has been threatned by a Letter to be murthered, and his Houſe burnt, and the villanous Writer thereof ſays, he was the Perſon that fired Mr. Packer's Houſe at Briſtol; upon which the Magiſtrates aſſembled, and were making a thorough Search in the Town.

Sir Haſſwell Tynte, who died, as above mentioned, of an Apoplexy, married a young Lady of Brecknock Shire of a very great Fortune, and is now with Child; ſo that the Title and Eſtate of 6000 l. per annum is in Suſpence, between a Brother of the deceaſt Gentleman, and Iſſue of the Birth of the ſaid Lady's Child. The Arrival of the Holland Mail is much longed for, to know whether the Revolution in Turkey will have that Influence on the German Councils as is expected; and eſpecially what Accompt will be given from Pruſſia. Mean time we hear the Report, which though it was ſo general, in relation to the Proceſs againſt the Prince Royal of Pruſſia, having a Tragical Iſſue, and obtained ſo much Credit, that Monſieur Amand, Miniſter of the French Church in Thread-needle Street, in his Prayer laſt Sunday, returned Thanks to God, for the Zeal and Conſtancy of that Prince to the Intereſt of the Proteſtant Religion; yet it is now aſſured by good Hands to be Groundleſs, and raiſed by the Jews and others in Exchange Alley, with a View of falling the Stocks.

The Report of the Lord Chief Juſtice Raymond to be made Lord Privy Seal, does not now meet with much Credit, his Lordſhip, we hear, not caring to exchange the high Offiec he now poſſeſſes and in which he has already, in the Judgment of the Learned, acquired as great Reputation as any of his Predeceſſors.

The Duke of Dorſet was this Day choſen one of the Governors of the Charter-houſe, in room of the late Biſhop of Durham; and Dr. Hall Phyſician to the Houſe, in room of Dr. Ball deceas'd.

From the London Gazette, Nov. 17.

Stockholm, Oct. 21. The laſt Letters from Moſcow aſſure us, That the Czarina has determined to make a Journey to Petersburg this Winter; and that her Czariſh Majeſty has formed a new Regiment of Guards, cauſing the beſt Officers and Soldiers to be drawn out of the old ones, to complete this, and given the Command of it to Count Lewenwolde. Letters from the Borders of Finland adviſe, That the Muſcovites have reinforced the Poſt of Toskula, which divides the two Frontiers, and are building Barracks there.

From the Evening Poſts, Nov. 17.

Seville, Oct. 26. There is much Talk of an Augmentation of the Forces, and a Promotion of General Officers; after which the King will ſend for his principal Generals, and conſult them upon the Operations of the next Campaign.

Moſcow, Oct. 12. Some Engliſh Merchants here and at Petersburg have received Letters from their Correſpondents, that the King of Great Britain was determined to ſend an Ambaſſador hither, with full Powers to accommodate the Differences between the two Courts.

Moſcow, Oct. 26. The Czarina has given freſh Aſſurances to Count Wratiſlaw, that the Emperor his Maſter may depend upon the 30,000 Ruſſians, whenever he ſhall have Occaſion for them.

Vienna, Nov. 8. The dethroning of the Grand Signor, and the Death of the Prime Vizier and ſome other Miniſters, are confirmed by ſeveral Expreſſes from Conſtantinople; but they differ much about the Circumſtances of that great Revolution. The Turkiſh Conſul here has had an Audience of Prince Eugene of Savoy; and 'tis ſaid this Court will ſhortly ſend a ſolemn Embaſſy to Conſtantinople, to renew the Truce concluded at Paſſarowitz in 1718, with the new Sultan.

Berlin, Nov. 1. The Court is ſtill at Wuſterhauſen, where they will continue to hunt the Wild Boar till the latter End of this Month. The new Body of Huſſars is now complete and new clothed. Men are at work upon the Prince Royal's new Equipage and Liveries; and the Perſons who are to form his Court are already nominated by the King, and will ſet out for Kuſtrin next Week. Beſides Lieut. Katt, condemned to loſe his Head, there is Lieut. Kent, who made his Eſcape, to be hang'd in Effigie, and Lieut. Span will be broke and impriſoned for 3 Years. [*Theſe Letters do not confirm the Execution of Lieut. Katt.*]

Paris, Oct. 22. The Injunction laid upon the Father D. Martin the Benedictine, not to print his Book,

Book, intitled, *En Explanation of the most difficult Texts of the Holy Scripture*, is taken off; so that the Book will come out very shortly.

The 40 Advocates who signed the Consultation in favour of the Curates of Orleans, which occasioned the Arret of the Council of the 30th past, met the 12th Inst. at their Usher's, to consider of some Way to take off the King's Anger, which they had incurred by that Consultation; and it was resolved to present a Submission to his Majesty; and the next Day that Petition was signed by 150 Advocates.

Dunkirk, Nov. 18. Yesterday the Dutch Ambassador passed thro' this Town, and had a great Desire to visit our Port; whereupon the Commandant and some other Officers attended his Excellency, who was shewn the Harbour, the Soldiers, and Sluices; and out of an Excess of Complaisance, the Sluices were haled up, and the Water let run, which serves to scour the Harbour. What his Excellency thought of these things, we do not know; for he said but little.

Francfort, Nov. 15. An Express is lately pass'd thro' here from Brussels to Vienna, with Dispatches of Importance. 'Tis said the Emperor persists in his Resolution not to depart from the Treaty of the Quadruple Alliance; and the King of Spain, on his Side, is as positive, insisting on every Article of the Seville Treaty.

London, Nov. 17. The Earl of Dunmore, Colonel of the 3d Regiment of Guards, and one of the 16 Peers of Scotland, hath kissed the King's Hand on his being nominate a Knight Companion of the most Noble Order of the Thistle, in room of the late Earl of Findlater, &c.

Weymouth, Nov. 13. This Morning sailed hence the *Happy Janet* of and from Dumbar, Robert Green, for the Streights.

Cowes, Nov. 14. Since my last came in the *Isabel* of and from Leith, for Rochelle; also the *Concord* of and from Dumbar, Robert Macleesh, from Leghorn; likewise the *Margaret* of Queensferry, from Inverness, for Bilboa.

Glasgow, Nov. 18. On the 3d Inst. Mr. Francis Hutcheson of Dublin, was admitted Professor of Philosophy, and delivered his Inaugural Oration: He is appointed to teach Moral Philosophy. The Professors in this College have ordered their Hours of Teaching, so as not to interfere with each other; and any Persons may attend, in one Session, any Branches of Philosophy, and the Lectures upon Latin or Greek, or both, as they incline: And accordingly it is become common for Scholars to hear the Prelections both of the Professors of Philosophy and the Languages, in the same Session. And Scholars who enter the Humanity Class, under the Care of Mr. Rosse, do, for the most part, at the same time attend the Professor of Greek; whereby they are made much more complete in both Languages, in two Years, than formerly, when they attended these Professors successively.

Last Monday, DUNLOP of that Ilk was unanimously chosen Rector by the whole Body of the University.

Tomorrow (the 25th Day of the Moon) 'tis High Water at *Leith*, at 10 o' Clock, 15 Min. Wednesday, at 11, 3 Min. Thursday at 11, 51 Min.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Exchequer, Nov. 19, 1730.

Notice is hereby given, by Order of the Right Honourable the BARONS OF EXCHEQUER, That they have Adjourned the Sale of the Arrears or Rests of the Estate of *William* late Earl of *Seaforth*, to the Third Day of February next 1731, in th'EXCHEQUER COURT, at Twelve of the Clock. Particulars whereof and of the Terms of Sale, are to be seen in the Hands of the Deputy-Remembrancer. *W. BOWLES.* D. R. R.

†‖¶ Any Person possess'd of a *Proprietory Right* to Lands or Quit-Rents in East New-Jersey, North-America, and are willing to dispose of the same, may hear of a Purchaser, by applying to Mr. JAMES GRAHAM Writer to the Signet, at Edinburgh; or to Mr. JAMES DARLING Merchant in Perth.

†‖† The *Creditors* of GEORGE HOME of WHITFIELD are hereby Advertised to Meet at the Laigh Coffeehouse in Edinburgh, upon Thursday the 26th Day of November Inst. at Three of the Clock after Noon; when some Matters of Import are to be under Consideration: And therefore, the *TRUSTEES* intreat they will punctually attend the Meeting, or send their Doers, with ample Powers to act and do for them.

By the Commissioners and Trustees for Improving Fisheries and Manufactures in Scotland,

Whereas several Persons who gave in Offers for Sowing *Lintseed* and *Hempseed* for the last Cropt 1730, or for any, or for both of the preceeding Cropts 1729 or 1728, have neglected to transmit annually against the First Day of November, Certificates of their Performance of the Conditions as directed by the Plan; And whereas WE are, within the Space of Thirty Days after Christmas, to report to His Majesty an exact Account of the Money issued by US for that, or any other Encouragements: THEREFORE, all concerned are certified, That if the proper Certificates of the Performance for all, or for any of the above Three Seasons, be not lodged with *DAVID FLINT*, our Secretary, on or before the First Day of January next, all Claim to the *Premium* allowed to the Undertakers by the said Plan, will be lost.

EDINBORGH: Printed For and By Mrs *Thomas* and *Walter Ruddimans*. Sold at the Printing-house; and at Mr. *Alexander Symmers*'s Shop in the Parliament-Close. At both which Places, *Advertisements* and *Subscriptions* are taken in.